

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

S E C R E T STATE 168300

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, PK

SUBJECT:UNDER SECRETARY SISCO'S MEETING WITH PAK AMBASSADOR

1. SUMMARY: AFTER REVIEWING CYPRUS EVENTS, UNDER SECRETARY SISCO AND AMBASSADOR YAQUB AGREED PRESIDENTIAL LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR PAKISTAN HAD BEEN HELPFUL. SISCO SUGGESTED FURTHER PUBLIC STATEMENT MIGHT BE MADE IN CONTEXT SECRETARY'S VISIT TO SUBCONTINENT. SISCO REPORTED ATTITUDE ON CAPITOL HILL TO POSSIBLE CHANGE IN ARMS SUPPLY POLICY AS MIXED. YAQUB WAS PERSONALLY OPTIMISTIC ON RESUMPTION OF SIMLA TALKS. SISCO DESCRIBED PHILOSOPHY BEHIND JOINT COMMISSIONS AND INDICATED U.S. WOULD GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION IF GOP MADE REQUEST IN THIS AREA.

2. CYPRUS. RESPONDING TO AMB YAQUB'S CONGRATULATIONS FOR HIS PART IN RESOLVING CYPRUS CRISIS, SISCO SAID THAT THROUGHOUT NEGOTIATIONS OUR POLICY TOOK COGNIZANCE OF NEW "OBJECTIVE REALITIES" IN AREA. WE WERE EXTREMELY CAREFUL TO WALK NARROW LINE BETWEEN DOING TOO MUCH AND DOING SECRET

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TOO LITTLE.

U.S. WAS HELPFUL IN (A)
STANDING FIRM ON THE CEASEFIRE AND MAKING CLEAR THERE
MUST BE NO GRECO-TURKISH WAR, AND (B) PROVIDING HELPFUL
SUGGESTIONS AT SEVERAL CRITICAL POINTS IN GENEVA TALKS.
MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE, AND

GENEVA TALKS WILL RECONVENE ON AUGUST 8 WITH CYPRIOTS
JOINING AUGUST 10.

3. PUBLIC STATEMENT OF SUPPORT. YAQUB AGREED WITH SISCO
THAT PRESIDENTIAL LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR PAKISTAN RELEASED
DURING NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEBATE BY AZIZ AHMED HAD BEEN
VERY HELPFUL. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT BHUTTO ALSO HAD
IN MIND A PUBLIC STATEMENT HERE. SISCO SUGGESTED SUCH
A STATEMENT MIGHT BEST BE MADE IN CONNECTION WITH
SECRETARY'S TRIP TO THE AREA. YAQUB NODDED GENERAL
AGREEMENT WITH THIS SUGGESTION.

4. ARMS SUPPLY. SISCO SAID WE CONTINUE TO BE MINDFUL OF
GOP CONCERNS ON THIS QUESTION, AND THAT HE WOULD CONVEY
TO THE SECRETARY THAT THE AMBASSADOR HAD AGAIN RAISED IT.
SISCO SAID IT WAS HIS PERSONAL IMPRESSION THAT CONGRES-
SIONAL OPINION ON THIS WAS MIXED. THERE IS A STRONG
SENTIMENT AGAINST AID TO INDIA, BUT THIS FEELING HAS NOT
NECESSARILY TRANSLATED INTO SUPPORT FOR CHANGING U.S.
ARMS SUPPLY POLICY.

5. SIMLA. RESPONDING TO SISCO'S QUERY REGARDING
PROSPECTS FOR RESUMPTION OF SIMLA PROCESS, AMBASSADOR
NOTED PUBLIC OPINION HAD MADE CONTINUATION OF TALKS
IMMEDIATELY AFTER TEST OUT OF QUESTION. HE DESCRIBED
PROSPECTS NOW AS GOOD AND WAS PERSONALLY OPTIMISTIC THAT
TALKS COULD GET UNDERWAY AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER.
IN ORDER FOR TALKS TO BEGIN AGAIN, PAKISTAN HAD ASKED
INDIA FOR ASSURANCES THAT THE EXPERIMENT WAS NOT MEANT
TO THREATEN PAKISTAN. PAKISTAN WAS NOW AWAITING A REPLY
TO AZIZ AHMED LETTER TO SWARAN SINGH REQUESTING SUCH
ASSURANCES.

6. JOINT COMMISSIONS. AS PREFACE TO INQUIRY ABOUT
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U.S.-INDIAN JOINT COMMISSIONS, YAQUB SAID THAT U.S.
EFFORT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH INDIA WAS GOOD THING
AND THAT PAKISTAN RECOGNIZED IT COULD WORK TO HER
ADVANTAGE TO HAVE USG IN POSITION TO EXERCISE INFLUENCE
IN DELHI. SISCO AGREED, OBSERVING THAT LEVEL OF CO-
OPERATION BETWEEN U.S. AND PAKISTAN OBVIOUSLY REFLECTED
EXCELLENT RELATIONS. AS WE HAD DONE IN MIDDLE EAST, IN
OUR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION WITH INDIA WE WERE LOOKING

FOR WAY TO PROVIDE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR BETTERING
RELATIONS. OBVIOUSLY THIS ALSO HAS POLITICAL IMPLICA-
TIONS, AND IF WE ARE GOING TO DO THIS WITH INDIA WE
SHOULD JOIN WITH PAKISTAN TO LOOK AT THE WIDER IMPLICA-
TIONS FOR THE SUBCONTINENT. WE ARE PREPARED TO EXPLORE

QUESTION OF U.S.-PAK JOINT COMMISSION IF GOP WISHES.
LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FALL, WE SHOULD BE IN A POSITION
TO DISCUSS AND POSSIBLY DECIDE THIS QUESTION AT THE
TIME OF THE SECRETARY'S VISIT. KISSINGER

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